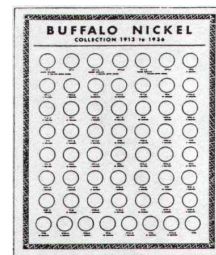


# ***Coin Board News***

## **For Collectors of Antique Coin Boards**

### **Number 34 — Spring 2015**



**No COIN BOARDS FOR SALE** Well, that's not exactly true. I did buy a small group during the past quarter, but there aren't enough new purchases to justify putting out a list. I've become more selective in what I'll buy, as common boards in common grades just don't sell. It seems that our hobby ranks haven't grown enough to move the more available coin board varieties unless they're in exceptionally nice condition.

We seem to be at something of an impasse, as the rare and choice boards everyone requests either don't exist in high grades or are not surfacing. At the same time, there are very few new collectors coming into the hobby to absorb duplicates of the items most of us already have. If we want this hobby to grow, it will be necessary to spread the word and, perhaps, start exhibiting portions of our collections. I did this once over ten years ago at the American Numismatic Association's summer convention, and my exhibit won First Place in its class. Sadly, I'm not able to install exhibits when I'm working coin shows, so further exhibits will have to await retirement. Will someone else take up the challenge?

**MARKET ACTIVITY** There were very few online offerings of coin boards during the past quarter, and most were of mediocre boards containing partial sets of coins. If not overpriced by the seller, these sets always sell at or near the value of the coins and are of no use in determining demand for the boards. The only noteworthy offering of coin boards consisted of four common Whitman entries: Second and Third Edition Lincoln Cent boards and a pair of X Edition boards for Indians and Lincolns, respectively. These were offered at a reasonable price for their quality, but the priority mail shipping requirement may have deterred buyers.

Also of note was the sale (finally) of a Curtland Display Company wooden board for Lincoln Cents. Originally priced at over \$1000 (!), it was reduced over many months to the point where it finally sold for under \$100 to a person who was buying it for the purpose of mounting his cent collection. I'd made the seller a reasonable offer a couple months before but was rebuffed. These wooden boards (they are known for several popular coin series) were made in the early 1950s, and I have a representative example in my own collection. They do not appear in my book, as they were costly items in their own time and required plastic capsules to hold the coins within the unbacked openings. Such a product fell outside the definition of classic coin boards, so they were omitted.

**BOOK UPDATES** Only one new variety has surfaced since the last newsletter. Not surprisingly, it affects the ever expanding line of Oberwise boards. Lincoln Cent board O1¢Bh is now divided into O1¢Bh.1, with mintages through "6 months" and O1¢Bh.2 with mintages through "10 months."

I've also assigned distinctive numbers to two minor Whitman variants described previously but not separated until now. The Second Edition boards copyright dated 1937 are known with either Light Tan (early) or Dark Tan (later) backings, and these were segregated by me about a year ago and assigned unique Lange Numbers. At the same time I observed that the 1938-dated boards for Liberty Head Nickels came with both backings as well, but it was not until now that they've been assigned separate numbers—W5¢B2d.1 (Light) and W5¢B2d.2 (Dark). Variety d.1 is significantly scarcer. Its exact rarity is uncertain, as I didn't begin distinguishing the two until a year ago.

**COIN ALBUM BOOK DISCOUNTED** My current book project is Volume Two in my projected series on coin albums. This will cover the albums produced by The Coin & Currency Institute, specifically the Library of Coins and Treasury of Coins lines. In order to raise working funds toward this project, I've decided to lower the price on Volume One from its publication list of \$75 to just \$59.95. For those who've been contemplating purchase of this elegant book but were hesitant due its cost, now seems to be the time to pull that trigger.

*Dave*

David W. Lange POB 110022 Lakewood Ranch, FL 34211 941-586-8670 [coincollectingboards.com](http://coincollectingboards.com)